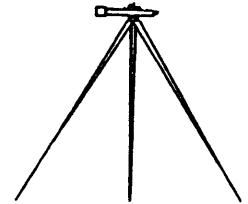


PIKE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Denny Salisbury, P.E., P.S.
COUNTY ENGINEER

502 South Pike Street
Waverly, Ohio 45690

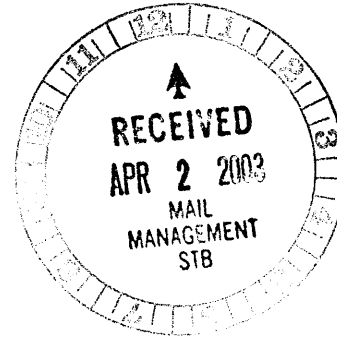


Office: (740) 947-4259

Fax Number: (740) 947-9339

March 28, 2003

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001



Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 622X)
CSX Transportation, Inc. - Abandonment
In Pike County, Ohio

Dear Ms. Rutson:

On March 20, 2003 I wrote regarding our concern of adverse ramifications for public safety and serious potential burdens on public authority which would result from the abandonment proposed by CSX Transportation in STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 622X). I understand that the Board received the filing on March 17, 2003 and that the Section of Environmental Analysis will soon publish an Environmental Assessment focusing on the proposed abandonment. For your convenience I am attaching a copy of my March 20 letter together with an additional set of photographs.

As noted in my previous communication we are very much concerned with the condition of the CSX trestle crossings at Bobo Road and Happy Hollow Road in Pike County, Ohio. Attached is a copy of the October 2, 2002 Report of FRA/PUCO Railroad Inspector D.E. Coates warning that the two trestles are showing advanced decay and that they will pose a threat to the traveling public in the future if they are not maintained or removed should the STB grant (or exempt) the proposed abandonment of the line. Our records indicate that approximately 350 vehicles a day pass under the Bobo Road trestle and 325 vehicles a day pass under the Happy Hollow Road trestle. Thus the deteriorated condition of the two trestles creates a real threat to Pike County motorists. We urge that CSXT should be required to remove the trestles and the increasing threat they pose to the public safety as a condition to the abandonment they seek.

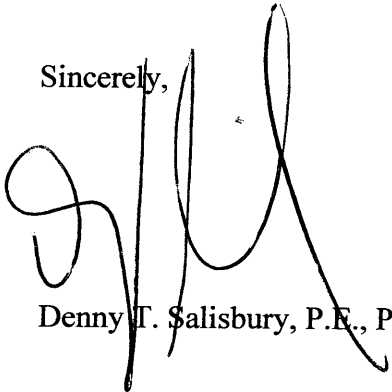
We are further concerned by the deteriorating condition of the grade crossings on McCorkle Road and Taylor Hollow Road. We note that in its Environmental Report CSXT asserts that public health and safety will be improved by elimination of six public grade crossings. It is my conviction as Pike County Engineer that it is essential that the

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
March 28, 2003
Page Two

tracks be removed and highway paving restored at the McCorkle Road and Taylor Hallow Road crossings in order to avoid serious problems for traffic crossing the right-of-way at those locations.

I am aware that the STB took similar steps in the interest of public safety in STB Docket No. AB-546 Camas Prairie Railnet, Inc., Abandonment - In Lewis, Nez Perce, and Idaho Counties, ID. (Decided September 12, 2000). I urge you and your staff to recommend similar measures in this situation in the public interest. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DTS', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Denny T. Salisbury, P.E., P.S.

cc: Keith O'Brien

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
RAILROAD SECTION

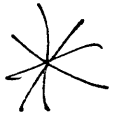
Date of Assignment: October 2, 2002

Date of Inspection: October 3, 2002

Subject: A-3415-02-0202 – Bridge over (C65) Bobo Road (228447X) showing signs of advanced decay at the cap beam and sill of the timber trestle pier on the eastside of highway. It appears that timbers have settled due to this decay.

Findings

Inspection revealed that the piers on both sides of the road are tilted toward the east. The cap beam is deteriorating as alleged and is a contributing factor to the tilt on the east side. However, the pier on the west side is also tilted indicating that the concrete foundation is also settling. This tilt has been observed in previous inspections. In the past, this was not as pertinent, as traffic has been discontinued to the Industry. CSX has applied for abandonment of this spur. There are two large trestles that will pose a threat to the traveling public in the future if they are not maintained or removed provided that the STB grants the request of CSX for abandonment. Should traffic resume on said spur, the bridge will need rehabilitation to facilitate future train movements.



SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

It is therefore concluded that the County Engineer should apply for an amendment pertaining to said bridges per: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 622X)**
CSX Transportation, Inc. – Abandonment
Pike County, Ohio

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is therefore recommended that this matter be held in abeyance until a determination is made by the STB as to the abandonment request by said Carrier.

D. E. Coates (2)
D. E. Coates
FRA/PUCO Railroad Inspector
October 4, 2002

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS

Sept. 16, 1992

Pike County Engineer's Office

To: Denny Salisbury, Pike County Engineer

From: Brad Montgomery, Engineering Assistant

Subject: Traffic Counts on various Roads

Locations, times, and counts are as follows:

1. Spunk Run Road at St. Rt. 772
From 9:15 A.M. on Aug. 12, 1992 to 9:15 A.M. on
Aug. 13, 1992. The count was 334.

2. Prosperity Road at St. Rt. 220
From 8:40 A.M. on Aug. 10, 1992 to 8:40 A.M. on
Aug. 11, 1992. The count was 1,085.

3. Happy Hollow Road at Schuster Road
From 7:50 A.M. on July 29, 1992 to 7:50 A.M. on
July 30, 1992. The count was 325.

4. Third St. at Rapp's
From 11:00 A.M. on Aug. 26, 1992 to 11:00 A.M. on
Aug. 27, 1992. The count was 392.

5. Buchanan Road at Turkey Run (bridge)
From 9:50 A.M. on Sept. 8, 1992 to 9:50 A.M. on
Sept. 9, 1992. The count was 480.

6. Nipgen Road at Clines Chapel (bridge)
From 2:20 P.M. on Sept. 14, 1992 to 2:20 P.M. on
Sept. 15, 1992. The count was 298.

7. Bobo Road at Truss Bridge
From 3:20 P.M. on Sept. 9, 1992 to 3:20 P.M. on
Sept. 10, 1992. The count was 350.

BM:br